

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 14375 172044Z

73

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4842

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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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BRUSSELS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, SENV, UK, FR

SUBJ: CIVAIR - CONCORDE

1. BRITISH PRESS SEPT. 17 REPORTS ANNOUNCEMENT BY AIR FRANCE OF ITS INTENTION TO COMMENCE CONCORDE SERVICES BETWEEN PARIS AND RIO JANUARY 4. PRESS GOES ON TO STATE THAT BRITISH AIRWAYS NOT YET IN A POSITION TO SET A DEFINITE COMMENCEMENT DATE FOR CONCORDE AND BOTH BA AND DEPARTMENT OF TRADE OFFICIALS SURPRISED BY AIR FRANCE ANNOUNCEMENT SINCE THEY BELIEVED BRITISH AND FRENCH MINISTERS HAD AGREED AIRLINES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES WOULD INAUGURATE SERVICES AT THE SAME TIME.

2. WE ARE NOT SURE AS TO REASON BA'S CONCORDE SERVICE MAY BE DELAYED FROM PLANNED JANUARY TIMETABLE. PRESS SAYS IT IS DIFFICULTY IN SECURING SUPERSONIC CORRIDOR AND LANDING RIGHT APPROVAL FOR SERVICE TO BAHRAIN. DEPT. OF TRADE OFFICIAL TOLD US, HOWEVER, THAT FOR REASON UNKNOWN TO HIM, DELIVERY OF BA'S SECOND AIRCRAFT WOULD BE DELAYED. CAA AIRWORTHINESS OFFICIAL RECENTLY

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PAGE 02 LONDON 14375 172044Z

TOLD US THAT IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO DELAY ISSUANCE

OF AIRWORTHINESS CERTIFICATE UNTIL SOME FURTHER WORK
HAD BEEN COMPLETED. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE HAVE HEARD
THAT HIGH ALTITUDE SPEED AND ALTITUDE CONTROLS MAY RE-
QUIRE FURTHER ATTENTION AND THAT SOME ADDITIONAL
TROPICAL FLYING MAY HAVE TO BE UNDERTAKEN BEFORE CERTIF-
ICATE IS ISSUED. IN ADDITION TO FOREGOING POSSIBLE
REASONS FOR DELAY IN BA'S CONCORDE SERVICE, THERE IS
FAIR CHANCE THAT PAY DISPUTE WITH BA CREW AND CABIN
STAFF OVER SUPERSONIC DIFFERENTIALS COULD ALSO HOLD UP
SERVICE.
RICHARDSON

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